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Denali Training Fund Quarterly Progress Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Name of Organization: UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
Name of Project: RURAL ALLIED HEALTH TRAINING – Dental Assisting
Reporting Period: January – March 2008, Phase IIIB 3rd Qtr and FINAL
Contact Person: Mia Oxley (Sally Mead, UAA Liaison)
Contact Number: 907 786 4853 Email Address: oxley@uaa.alaska.edu
Expenditures to date: Provided by UA Office of Cost Analysis
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.
Signed by: <u><i>Jan Harris</i></u> Dated <u><i>4/15/08</i></u>
Title: <u><i>Associate Dean, CHSW/Project PI</i></u>

1. In a few sentences, please describe the scope of your project:

This program prepares trainees for work as chair side dental assistants and to sit for portions of the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB). It does not, at this time, lead to an occupational endorsement. The UAA dental assisting program is accredited and can be taken at either the certificate or associate's degree level.

2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period:

Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period. Include planning, advertisement and/or training performance that occurred this quarter? List any accomplishments achieved. (Attach advertisements if applicable)

The dental assisting program offered another pilot course Spring semester-Essentials of Dentistry. After several marketing efforts to the dental community, only two students signed up. One is employed by a private dental office.

A person was identified, interviewed and on the verge of being employed for this work in March. At the last minute, she withdrew her application. It requires a person who has been a dental practitioner, to talk the language with clinic/practices around the state, has schedule flexibility for a short term project and can travel to rural Alaska. We continue to search for this unique set of qualifications.

3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities and training for next few months. Please include important dates like graduation, site visits, travel, job fairs, etc.

The pilot course will be completed next quarter and ideally work will be able to move forward interviewing/answering the questions listed above. There will be no course offerings in the summer or until we have directional clarity as described above.

4. a. How many are in your training program during this reporting period? 2

b. How many people have been trained and/or certified to date from this grant?

SEE ATTACHED ROSTER

5. Please list the community to which each individual trained is from, the type of training and certification, the graduation date and who will employ them upon completion of training.

SEE ATTACHED ROSTER

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your training project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project. Is your training on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope? Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance.

Significant effort was made to recruit an assessing coordinator for this program to do the fact finding and contact with rural Alaska dental facilities to get a better idea for direction. The following questions would be answered after the assessing process.

1. Do the dental assisting courses that have been converted to Blackboard meet the educational needs of rural Alaska dental clinics?
2. If the courses that are currently available via Blackboard do not meet educational needs, would rural dental clinics be willing to partner with the dental assisting program to create applicable credit or continuing education courses.

3. Are the continuing education needs of rural Alaskan dental clinics currently being met by an alternate method? Are UAA's services needed in the rural Alaskan dental setting?
4. What are the continuing education needs for the Tribal Dental Health Aide (levels 1 and 2) program? How are those needs currently being met? Can the dental assisting program provide any of the needed online coursework? Would that CE be met by a course that has already been converted to Blackboard? If not, would the ANTHC/Tribal Health Dental programs be willing to partner with the UAA to create the needed continuing education?
5. Would the courses that have already been developed be applicable to tech prep in rural Alaskan high schools? Are rural Alaskan high schools interested in dental assisting as a tech prep subject?

7. How are you or will you be evaluating the individuals being trained to ensure competency, skill level and understanding? (Testing, assessment, etc)

Accreditation standards require the programs to be competency based. The specific competencies are included in the syllabus for each course.

8. Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future.

See OTHER ACTIVITIES report.

Date: March 31, 2008

[illegible]